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W. R. Pettyjohn

U.S. Navy

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are apt—"Someone Had Blundered," "You'll Die in Singapore," "Sinister Twilight," "The Worst Disaster," "Too Little, Too Late," "The Chain of Disaster," etc. McIntyre tells a good story of the reason why these are apt.

J.K. HOLLOWAY
Naval War College

Wells, John G., *Whaley: The Story of HMS Excellent 1830-1980*, Portsmouth, Hants, England: HMS Excellent, 1980. 247pp.

This short history of the Royal Navy's first gunnery school was written by a former Captain of HMS *Excellent* for the 150th anniversary of the school. It is a complete rewriting and updating of R.T. Young's *The House That Jack Built* (1955).

As a sesquicentennial history, it is very readable. The author traces the development of gunnery training from

1830 when the old 74-gun ship-of-the-line, HMS *Excellent*, became the home of the gunnery school. He discusses the development of Whale Island into a shore-based school and then follows its history through the 1970s when the function of Whale Island was changed from being a specialist school to a general naval training center. The story is told with verve and humor, spiced with delightful anecdotes, maps and photographs. The emphasis throughout is on the human drama cast with a backdrop of naval history.

Scholars of naval history will find the appendixes of documents and the lists of officers useful reference material.

This small volume is a worthy and most appropriate memento for those who have served on Whale Island and learned gunnery there.

JOHN B. HATTENDORF
Naval War College

RECENT BOOKS

Selected Accessions of the Naval War College Library

Annotated by

Kathleen Ashook, Doris Baginski and Mary Ann Varoutsos

Antarctica: No Single Country, No Single Sea. New York: Mayflower Books, 1979. 175pp. \$27.50

Gorgeous photographs of the natural beauties of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean are so numerous and stunning that this could be enjoyed simply as a coffee table book, but there is also a substantial text that traces the history of political, commercial, and scientific explorations in this region. Maintaining that its resources belong to the whole world, the editors plead that Antarctica be safeguarded against exploitation by nations competing for its riches.

Balmforth, Edmund E. *A Chinese Military Strategist of the Warring States: Sun Pin*. Ann Arbor, Mich.: University Microfilms, 1979. 473pp. \$7.50

Since ancient times there had been legends in China about a brilliant strategist, Sun Pin, whose writings were lost, unlike those of another strategist, Sun Tzu, whose work became a classic. In 1972 ancient Chinese graves were excavated and they yielded portions of texts written by both

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men. Containing a translation of the reconstituted *Sun Pin*, this study is an analysis of Sun Pin's attitudes toward war, his tactical and strategic concepts, and the weaponry of the times. Placing *Sun Pin* chronologically at about 357-320 B.C., the author finds that this fascinating new source of information does not contradict what scholars have already pieced together about this period of Chinese history.

Beloff, Nora. *Inside the Soviet Union: the Myth and the Reality*. New York: Times Books, 1980. 188pp. \$9.95

Journalist Nora Beloff undertook a motor tour of Russia so that she could meet the Russian people rather than see just the standard tourist sites. At the end of her trip, she was detained by the KGB as an anti-Soviet activist and was forced to write a diary of her trip for them. This account is the "uncensored version" of that diary in which she relates various impressions of Russia: the almost comical intricacies of the Intourist bureaucracy that governs all tourism; drab living conditions; grimly industrialized urban centers; beautiful sights along the Black Sea; and the warmth and friendliness of the Russian people.

The Chinese War Machine; a Technical Analysis of the Strategy and Weapons of the People's Republic of China. New York: Crescent Books, 1979. 184pp. \$14.98

This is an attractive and profusely illustrated volume with numerous photographs, charts, and graphs with chapters written by authorities on Chinese military affairs. It can be used for obtaining brief, factual information or used for a more detailed discussion of the PRC's armed forces, weaponry, or strategy. In general, the authors' viewpoints seem to be that conflict between the Soviet Union and China is a definite threat, and that the People's Liberation Army (the armed forces) is in need of modernization. There is little else available in recent trade publications on the PLA.

Cox, John. *Overkill: Weapons of the Nuclear Age*. New York: Crowell, 1977. 208pp. \$7.85

As man's ability to use the atom has been a reality for almost 40 years, a full sense of the horrifying implications of that power has become dulled over the decades. In his strong, rational argument for total disarmament, the author provides a history of nuclear weapons development, describes the dangers of the current arms race, and discounts arms limitations agreements as merely perpetrating the myth that nuclear arms are manageable weapons of war.

Davison, Richard H. et al. *The U.S. Sea-based Strategic Force: Costs of Trident Submarine and Missile Programs and Alternatives*. Washington: U.S. Congressional Budget Office, 1980. 62pp. \$3.75*

Two fundamental decisions must be made when Congress meets to discuss the 1981 defense budget: Should development of the Trident II missile proceed? and What kind of missile-carrying submarines should be authorized? The costs of developing, building, and maintaining five alternative submarine/missile configurations are assessed in this background paper prepared at the request of the Research and Development Subcommittee of the Senate Armed Services Committee. Additional considerations not affected by cost factors are addressed as well as the possible

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effect of the future vulnerability of the strategic submarine fleet on long-term expenditures.

* For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

FitzGerald, Frances. *America Revised*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1979. 240pp. \$9.95

The concept of an American identity as it has been reflected in—and perhaps shaped by—the history textbooks of 20th-century America is the target of Frances FitzGerald's formidable scrutiny. Her wit and style make almost light reading, especially as she recounts the attempts of publishing houses to keep pace with the latest educational and political trends of the Right and the Left. Her sobering conclusion is that intellectual standards are considered last, if at all, and that the primary purpose, whether deferring to liberal or conservative thought, is to manipulate rather than to inform children.

Geelhoed, E. Bruce. *Charles E. Wilson and the Controversy at the Pentagon, 1953 to 1957*. Detroit, Mich.: Wayne State University Press, 1979. 216pp. \$14.95

This biography provides insight into both Wilson's performance as Secretary of Defense and President Eisenhower's management of national security. Drawing upon his military background, Eisenhower established the broad outlines of defense policy, while Wilson was granted a great deal of authority to administer a dramatic shift in the Department of Defense. Although he was charged with implementing and defending a program that drew considerable criticism from legislators and military leaders, Wilson remained in office almost three times longer than any of his predecessors and played a key role in shaping defense policy during the Eisenhower years.

Hartrich, Edwin. *The Fourth and Richest Reich*. London: Macmillan, 1980. 302pp. \$12.95

West Germany's dramatic transformation, from crushing poverty after World War II to the most flourishing economy in Europe, is chronicled here by Edwin Hartrich, who served as chief correspondent from Germany to *The Wall Street Journal* in the 1950s. He examines the complexities inherent in the German system of providing extensive social welfare measures with a free market economy and analyzes the influence of labor unions, domestic politics, and international relations upon the economy's development.

Herring, George C. *America's Longest War; the United States and Vietnam, 1950-1975*. New York: Wiley, 1979. 298pp. \$12.95; paper \$6.95

In this overview of 25 years of American involvement in Vietnam, the ultimate failure of the United States is portrayed as the logical culmination of the containment policy begun by President Truman in the 1940s. Through analysis of the military, political, and diplomatic factors present at each stage of the conflict, the attitudes and responses of the American people are clarified. Special emphasis is given to the effects of the war on future American foreign policy.

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Hough, Richard. *The Last Voyage of Captain James Cook*. New York: Morrow, 1979. 271pp. \$10.95

Already the most celebrated explorer-scientist of his day, Captain Cook was pulled out of semiretirement to lead one last expedition to the Pacific. From the beginning, the voyage was plagued by mishaps, delays, and misunderstandings that reached a climax when Cook was killed in a skirmish with the natives of Kealakekua. A moving narrative of that ill-fated journey, this book was written in honor of the bicentennial of Cook's death by a well-known British maritime historian.

Jacobsen, C.G. *Soviet Strategic Initiatives: Challenge and Response*. New York: Praeger, 1979. 168pp. \$19.95

Relevant Soviet strategic literature is compared with evidence of emerging capabilities and potential trends to determine the likely course of future Soviet strategic planning. By concentrating on documented doctrine, procurement, and policy, the author endeavors to delimit the range of possible objectives and capabilities over the next 20 years and facilitate the identification of likely scenarios.

Johnson, Gail C. *High-level Manpower in Iran: from Hidden Conflict to Crisis*. New York: Praeger, 1980. 121pp. \$19.95

In 1974 Iran implemented an ambitious development plan that soon proved unable to fulfill the high expectations for economic and social gain it had fostered among diverse social groups. Through the perspective of the management problems of professional, technical, managerial, and supervisory personnel, this analysis explains some of the reasons the Shah's industrialization program failed. The study, based on extensive interviews conducted in Iran, uses an interdisciplinary approach stressing the interplay between economic and sociopolitical factors within the context of manpower and industrial development.

Laird, Melvin R. *People, not Hardware; the Highest Defense Priority*. Washington: American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research, 1980. 24pp. paper \$3.75

The All-Volunteer Force came into existence during Laird's tenure as Secretary of Defense. He indicates that an adequate or higher compensation is necessary for the maintenance of a qualified armed forces—for its retention rate and for the quality of military life. Laird further states that the quality and numbers of the military do have a direct bearing upon the compensation offered, which in turn has an effect on national security. A substantial increase in the military pay rates is one of the recommended solutions for an effective defense system.

Leifer, Michael. *International Straits of the World: Malacca, Singapore and Indonesia*. Alphen aan den Rijn: Sijthoff & Nordhoff, 1978. 218pp. \$36.52

The physical characteristics and economic, political, and strategic complexities of maritime transit through the Indonesian Straits are reviewed in this study, relevant to the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference. The effects of current major power rivalries upon the region are analyzed, and the strategic outlook and political aspirations of the coastal states are considered within the context of their colonial history from the 17th through the 19th centuries.

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Leighton, Marian K. *The Soviet Threat to NATO's Northern Flank*. Agenda Paper No. 10. New York: National Strategy Information Center, 1979. 100pp. paper \$3.95

The author effectively states her reasons for greater NATO awareness of the Soviet threat to the Northern European countries. Their fears focus upon the military buildup of the Barents Sea and its implications for Soviet control of the sea lines of communication in the Northern Atlantic. The strategic security of the northern flank can be cited as an effective deterrent to Soviet military diplomacy and domination in this region. In addition, greater U.S. interest is necessary, as the northern flank would be a vital sea control link to Europe if the southern flank areas were not readily accessible.

Meyer, Gail E. *Egypt and the United States; the Formative Years*. Rutherford, N.J.: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 1980. 230pp. \$18.00

A number of parallels might be drawn between the policy initiatives undertaken by the Eisenhower administration and the current American-Egyptian rapprochement. However, there has been an abrupt change in American policy toward Egypt and the Arab world since the years 1952 to 1958, when many of the problems continuing to trouble the United States until the present day came to light. Several significant themes in the diplomacy between Egypt and the United States are scrutinized in this very readable monograph which is grounded in extensive primary and secondary sources.

Nailor, Peter and Alford, Jonathan. *The Future of Britain's Deterrent Force*. Adelphi Papers No. 156. London: International Institute for Strategic Studies, 1980. 37pp. paper \$3.50

In "The Strategic Context" by Peter Nailor, the question asked is, What might supersede the Polaris missile when it becomes obsolete? It is suggested that Britain's new nuclear deterrence system should be based upon a reconsideration of its strategic policy, which cannot be separated from its role in Western security or from the current balance of nuclear power. Alford's "The Range of Choice" effectively argues both pro and con for those systems that are likely to replace Britain's Polaris—the cruise missile, submarine systems, and antiballistic missiles. Whatever system is chosen will have a direct bearing upon arms control agreements. Britain will also be dependent upon U.S. cooperation for a reliable system.

A Sea Classics Special Presentation: a Pictorial Monograph of the Fighting Fletcher Class Destroyers of WWII. Canoga Park, Calif.: Challenge Publications, 1979. 98pp. paper \$3.00

A collection of photographs, together with accompanying essays, that illustrate the role played by the Fletcher-class destroyer during World War II, is shown in this publication. Profiles of a number of individual ships are sketched, but this is not a comprehensive study of the *Fletchers*. It is, however, a sampling of WWII naval operations.

Theoharis, Athan, ed. *The Truman Presidency: the Origins of the Imperial Presidency and the National Security State*. Stanfordville, N.Y.: E.M. Coleman Enterprises, 1979. 396pp. \$39.50

This compilation of selected documents, most of them recently declassified, traces the use of the doctrine of "executive privilege" from its origins in the

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Truman presidency to the present day. These documents shed new light on the decisions of intelligence agency officials during these years as well.

Wilson, Dick. *The People's Emperor*. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1980. 530pp. \$17.50

Mao Tse-tung's life was one of brilliant accomplishments as a revolutionary and leader of the Chinese people for 25 years, and even as a poet and philosopher. Although this biography includes his public career, its real concerns are with Mao's private life—his personal struggles and the shaping of his ideals and philosophy.

Wilson, Duncan. *Tito's Yugoslavia*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1979. 269pp. \$27.50

Paradoxically, communist Yugoslavia is a nation whose economic policies are nearer to the free market system than to the state socialist model and whose diplomatic practices are closer to those of the "non-aligned" Third World countries than to the foreign policies of the Comintern. Sir Duncan Wilson, Master of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, makes full use of his considerable talents as writer, diplomat, and scholar in this effort to elucidate these economic and political dichotomies and the relationship between them. A concise synthesis of the development of Yugoslavia since 1945 is the result.

